

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 2, 10, 11 and 13 have been amended. Claims 2-11 and 13-25 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is included in this amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter:

At page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 21-23 and 24-25 are allowable and that claims 2-9, 11 and 13-20 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 11 and 13 have been so amended; thus Claims 2-9, 11 and 13-25 are deemed to be in allowable form.

The 35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection:

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Narichika (JP-8249829). Claims 1 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus the rejection of claims 1 and 12 is moot.

The 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection:

At page 2 of the Office Action, claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Narichika (JP-8249829) in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 10 has been amended to include the features of original claim 1, due to the cancellation of claim 1.

Narichika is a foreign language document. The Examiner is clearly relying on portions of Narichika for which no translation into the English language has been made of record. Thus, it is unclear how the Examiner determined the extent of the disclosure of Narichika which is being relied upon by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner either provide a translation of Narichika with the next Office Action or withdraw the rejection.

Conclusion:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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